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The Signal



Friday, June 8, 2007

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

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News UPDATE

CGSC/ILE graduation

The Command and General Staff College/Intermediate Level Education program will hold its graduation exercise 10 a.m., **Friday** in Alexander Hall.

For information, call (706) 791-5540.

Graduation ceremony

Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center will hold its 34th Annual Graduate Medical Education Graduation ceremony 1:30 p.m. **today** in Alexander Hall. Thirty nine interns and residents will graduate in the ceremony hosted by Brig. Gen. Donald Bradshaw, Southeast Regional Medical Command and Eisenhower commander.

This year's guest speaker is Maj. Gen. William Rajczak, Director of the Joint Capabilities Development and Joint Doctrine Directorate at the U.S. Joint Forces Command.

For information call (706) 787-5301.

Memorial service

Memorial services will be held 10 a.m. **Wednesday** in Alexander Hall for Sgt. 1st Class Robert Dunham, who was killed May 24 in Iraq.

Dunham was assigned to Fort Gordon and worked in the Directorate of Training until October 2006, when he was reassigned to the 1st Brigade Transition Team, 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Army Show coming

U.S. Army Soldier Show public performances will be **Saturday** and **Sunday** in Alexander Hall, on Chamberlain Ave.

The Soldier Show is a song and dance revue performed by active duty Army personnel from all over the world.

The shows at 8 p.m. June 9 and 6 p.m. June 10 are open to the public and admission is free. Seating is limited, so early arrival is recommended.

For entrance to Fort Gordon, all persons 16 years or older must show a photo identification. All drivers must have current drivers license, proof of insurance and state license registration.

For information about this year's show, go to <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/entertainment/armysoldiershow/news.asp>.

Family receives Soldier's World War II medals

Charmain Z. Brackett
Correspondent

It was a dangerous mission for the members of the Army Air Corps – flying behind enemy lines from Italy to Romania to cut off the source of nearly 60 percent of the oil used by Nazi Germany during World War II.

Under heavy fire on that hot July morning in 1944, the planes flew 700 miles into Romania to bomb refineries; they safely returned. The next morning they weren't as lucky; they were shot down and taken as prisoners of war until the war's end.

In April, nearly 63 years after that mission nine of its members received the Distinguished Flying Cross medal. Six of them received it posthumously including 1st Lt. James Jatho, whose son, Jim Jatho, lives in Augusta.

"I'm just really proud of

him," said Jatho, who visited Washington, D.C. in April to receive his father's medal.

Jatho said he didn't know much about his father's military career.

"He never talked about it," he said.

Those of the World War II era proudly served their country and then went on with their lives without reflection, he said.

"I didn't find out he was in a prisoner of war camp until three years before he died," he said. His father died about 11 years ago.

While a prisoner of war, Lt.



Courtesy photo

This photo comes from a poster distributed during the medal awards ceremony in April for 1st Lt. James Jatho in Washington, D.C.

Jatho kept detailed records. He drew sketches of the barracks.

He was on a top bunk and cut out part of the ceiling so that he could sit up in his bed at night and write in his journals, his son said.

Food was at the top of the war prisoners' thoughts. Among the writings in the journals are lists of the types of food Jatho wanted when he was freed. He categorized the items down to the types of jams and jellies he wanted to eat.

Jatho surmises that his father's and other unit member's paperwork got lost after World War II. Other members of the unit found out they were eligible for the medal after seeing one of their other squadron members with it at a reunion about 15 years ago. He had been ill on the morning of the mission in which the others were taken as prisoners.

Jatho understands about paper work being lost. He served with a Signal Corps unit during the Vietnam War and should have received a few medals including a Bronze Star, he said. He plans to pursue them now.

Departing deputy commander receives honors

Bonnie Heater
Signal staff

The Fort Gordon community honored Brig. Gen. Ronald Bouchard, the deputy commanding general, and his family at a farewell luncheon held at the North Wing Ballroom of the Gordon Club June 1. The event was actually a roast.

Among the invited guests were Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general; his wife Lori; Col. Jack Bryant, chief of staff, and his wife Joanie and their daughter Jessica; Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Barr, Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, and his wife Linda; Col. John Holwick, Fort Gordon garrison commander, and his wife Kyong; and Command Sgt. Maj. Arthur Washington, garrison command sergeant major.

Department of Defense civilian employees, contractors, commanders and Soldiers had an opportunity to thank the general and his family for their leadership and support. Among the many departing gifts the general received was a drill sergeant hat, various golf items, a wooden carved name plate for his desk, a memory book stocked full of photos and Signal articles of his involvement at the post. His wife Marcia received several gifts including a Fort Gordon cookbook. Also attending was their young son Michael.

The chief of staff was the master of ceremony. Strong gave a David Letterman's count down of the 10 reasons to golf with the deputy commanding general. Warrant officers on post made the general an honorary warrant officer on May 31.

Bouchard, who has been the deputy commanding general here since August 2005 will report to his next assignment as chief of staff at the joint service Defense Information Systems Agency in Virginia June 25. The Pentagon agency is responsible for global net-centric solutions for the nation's leaders and the war fighters all over the world.

In the afternoon members of the Fort Gordon community assembled at the Signal Towers flagpole for Bouchard's command award and retreat ceremony. He was joined by his wife Marcia, and their son Michael.

Also among the distinguished guests were Donna Brock, command sergeant major, DDEAMC and SERMC; Jim Hussey, representative for Senator Saxby Chambliss; Nancy Bobbitt, representative for Senator Johnny Isakson; Karen Nixon, representative for Augusta Mayor Deke Copenhaver; and Col. David Budinger, deputy commander, clinical services, DDEAMC.

The 434th Army Band, known as the U.S. Army Signal Corps Band, opened the ceremony with the song "St. Louis Blues" by W. C. Handy. Chaplain (Maj.) Jay Johns gave the invocation.

Nixon, representing Mayor Deke Copenhaver, presented Bouchard with a proclamation declaring June 1, 2007 as "Brigadier General Ronald Bouchard Day in Augusta, Ga." In the proclamation he was recognized for strengthening the relationship between Fort Gordon and its host community of Augusta and giving generously of his time and talents to further develop partnerships

with local and state agencies. This was followed by Jim Hussey presenting the general with a letter of appreciation from Senator Saxby Chambliss.

Strong in his address spoke highly of his deputy commanding general and how the Bouchards will be missed by the Fort Gordon community. "General Bouchard leaves a profound and lasting legacy of innovative, tireless and dedicated leadership," said Strong. "He exhibited the highest standards of character and values. He has been an invaluable role model, extremely skilled mentor and dynamic visionary, whose focus and energy have made an unparalleled difference for our Army and for every Signaleer.

"For me, he has been a steady sounding board, a tireless advocate and a great friend," added Strong. "Ron has been instrumental in taking the lead in moving our regiment forward; keeping our training relevant, preparing our signal warriors for their paramount role in the long war against terrorism, while doing all within his power to improve the quality of life for our Soldiers and their Families.

"Of all his distinguished achievements, perhaps the most visible and lasting will be, his lead in the creation of LandWarNetUniversity," explained Strong. "He led in the development of more than 70 initiatives in support of the five LandWarNetUniversity goals that he helped envision...six LandWarNet labs have been established; 11 simulators have been fielded with eight more under development; 39 additional modular classrooms have been added, and 34 new courses have been added to our signal curriculum"

The general then praised Bouchard's skills as a comptroller. "In a time of drastically constricted budgeting, he has gained more than \$64 million dollars in added allocations," added Strong.

"This great success allowed for modernization of our 'schoolhouse,' creation of a Network Service Center and the increased number of training labs and classrooms I've mentioned...We now provide LandWarNet training products to the Marines; we've developed a battle command training network and created the joint communications systems planners course with Joint Forces Command and their J6...His influence and indelible impact will last far into the future. His departure will be greatly felt, but our loss is definitely DISA's gain.

See Bouchard, page 10



Photo by Jimmy Buffington

(Left) The national flag is lowered during a farewell ceremony June 1 at the Signal Towers. The flag was ceremoniously folded and presented to Brig. Gen. Ronald Bouchard, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon deputy commanding general, standing with his wife, Marcia and son Michael. Bouchard departs Fort Gordon to assume a new post as Defense Information Systems Agency chief of staff on June 25.

Fort Gordon Soldier returns performing with Soldier Show

Charmain Z. Brackett
Correspondent

Spc. Phillip Harris had only one request of the U.S. Army Soldier Show's director.

"I told Mr. [Victor] Hurtado I want to be a sponge and learn as much as possible," said Harris, of Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center's B Company, who is on tour with the show, which will be open to the public in two shows at Alexander Hall this weekend.

The 90-minute show will be at 8 p.m. Saturday and 6 p.m. Sunday.

Hurtado answered that request by stretching Harris whose forte is hip-hop and rap.

"It's expanding my horizons," said Harris who appears in several songs including a country number as well as a rock and roll set.

"The country got me," said Harris.

This year's show is slightly different from past shows ac-

cording to information from Fort Belvoir's public affairs office. The Soldier Show begins and ends at Fort Belvoir, Va. The show features less performers in years' past; however, the performers do more than just sing and dance. Many of them play instruments.

Harris plays the congas for one number and performs one of his original numbers.

Being part of the Soldier Show, which kicked off its tour at the beginning of May, has been quite an experience for Harris.

"We are in Fort Benning now performing for 12,000 basic trainees," said Harris in Monday's phone interview. "You are a star. People want your autograph after the show."

Harris said he is looking forward to returning to Fort Gordon to perform in front of the home audience and wants to thank those who gave him the opportunity. "I'm really appreciative," he said. "I'm so happy they let me do this. It's something I have enjoyed."

Doors open an hour before the show, and patrons are recommended to arrive early.

Recycling efforts on-going process

Recycling is an on-going environmental concern at Fort Gordon. The results of the Fort Gordon's Recycle program are listed here for the amount of commodities recycled in May.

On July 31, the two units participating in the Unit Funds program that have contributed and recycled the most will receive a check for \$500 according to Gene Trevathan, the manager of the Fort Gordon Recycling program. In

May the two leaders in the Unit Funds program are the 551st Signal Battalion which earned

\$19.22 for their unit fund and the 67th Signal Battalion which earned \$18.92

Commodities recycled in May	
Aluminum Cans.....	57 lbs.
White Paper.....	332 lbs.
Cardboard.....	920 lbs.
Newspaper.....	295 lbs.
Mixed Paper.....	102 lbs.
Shredded Paper.....	683 lbs.
Magazines and Phone Books.....	145 lbs.
Technical Manuals and Field Manuals	338 lbs.

TOTAL.....2,872 LBS

Weekend events offer wide variety

Charmain Z. Brackett
Correspondent

A wide variety of events will be held across the area over the next few days. From outdoor movies to a kids fishing tournament, there is something for almost everyone to enjoy.

A movie under the stars can be viewed on selected Fridays during the summer in downtown Augusta.

Happy Feet will be shown at 9 p.m. today at the Augusta Common.

Admission is \$2.

The Tykes Fishing Rodeo will be at 9 a.m. Saturday at Diamond Lakes Regional Park off Windsor Spring Road.

Children from 5 to 17 years-old are invited to participate in the event which costs \$2 per child. Prizes will be given in several age categories for biggest fish and most catches.

The Hopelands Gardens summer concert series continues Monday with the Irish music of Solstice at 7 p.m.

The free concert series is held each Monday from May through August.

For more information, call (803) 642-7631.

Thursdays at the Imperial Theatre this summer mean a new film series.

In past years, the historic theater has presented film series on children's books and a foreign film series. This summer, it's all about rock and roll.

The June 14 offering will be the 1970 film Gimme Shelter with the Rolling Stones, Tina Turner and Jefferson Airplane.

Other films in the series include Woodstock on June 28; Led Zeppelin's The Song Remains the Same is slated for July 5. Admission is \$2.

For more information, call (706) 722-8341.

Another Thursday activity in the area is canoeing with a ranger at the Aiken State Natural Area from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Paddle With A Ranger will be held through Aug.16.

For more information, call (803) 295-7248 or (803) 649-2857.

Show organizers seeking talented teen performers

Charmain Z. Brackett
Correspondent

Fort Gordon is looking for the area's talent with two upcoming shows.

Auditions for the teen talent show will begin at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the dinner theater building.

"This is our second show. It was a huge success last year," said Steve Walpert, Fort Gordon's entertainment director. "It gave a lot of kids a great experience, and it was a fantastic show."

There are several categories for this year's contest including vocal soloist (male & female), instrumental vocal-ist, instrumental soloist, rap (male/female), spoken word (male/female), vocal group (maximum of 5 vocals, duet, trio, quartet, etc.), instru-mental group (maximum of 5

players), vocal/instrumental (maximum of 10 players), in-dividual dance, group dance, individual specialty (single acts that are non-musical ex-cept for accompaniment), such as a comic, novelty, praise dance), group spe-cialty and master of ceremo-nies.

First place will receive \$200, second place will re-ceive \$100 and third place will receive \$50.

The show will be at 6 p.m., Wednesday, July 25, and it will be entered into the Army Festival of the Performing Arts.

Last year, many of the per-formers in the show received first place at the Army Festi-val, according to Walpert.

He said he believes the teen talent show was one of the reasons Fort Gordon re-ceived the honor of best in-

stallation in the Army Festi-val.

For those who are older than 19 but still want to participate in a talent show, the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers talent show is coming up as well.

This contest offers similar talent categories with the ex-ception of master of ceremo-nies.

The contest is open to the public to those who are 18 years-old and older.

Auditions will be from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 20 and Wednesday, June 27 at the BOSS Head-quarters, Building 28320, Lane Avenue.

The show will be on Tues-day, July 24.

Applications can be down-loaded from the post website at **www.fortgordon.com**.

Avoid Summer gas pump pinch

Andrea Aker
WalshCommunications

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Drivers nationwide are feeling the pinch at the pumps, and as record high gas prices set in across the country, the pinch isn't likely to lighten up during the peak driving season, according to Mike Sullivan, director of education for Take Charge America, a national non-profit credit counseling agency.

“Now that \$3 a gallon – or more – is the norm in many parts of the nation, consumers are feeling the financial strain whether they're planning a summer getaway or just trying to get to work,” he said.

According to a recently released survey from AAA, traveling this summer will be more expensive than last – and not just at the gas pumps. Combined, lodging and restaurants are expected to be about 3.7 percent more expensive than last year.

If you are one of the millions planning to hit the road this summer, Sullivan offers seven tips to help you save:

- Keep vehicle properly maintained – Get regular tune ups and vehicle maintenance checks to improve gas mileage. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, drivers who follow the manufacturer's maintenance recommendations should avoid fuel economy problems due to worn spark plugs, dragging brakes, low transmission fluid or the transmission not going into high gear.
- Check tires – Check your tire pressure regularly to be sure that they are inflated in accordance with the

manufacturer's specifications. AAA says properly inflated tires can increase gas mileage as much as 2 percent.

- Combine trips – Let your daily or weekly errands accumulate until you can complete them in a single trip. In addition to saving gas, you will reduce wear and tear on your car.
- Lighten the load – Remove heavy objects from your vehicle. The heavier the vehicle, the more gas it expends.
- Drive gently – An easy touch on the accelerator and slower speeds will also save on gas.
- Do your homework – Check around for the cheapest gas in your area. Prices can vary up to 20 cents per gallon from block to block. Web sites like <http://gasbuddy.com> provide users with a list of the cheapest gas stations by zip code.
- Avoid peak driving times – If possible, adjust your work or school hours to avoid peak traffic times at rush hour. This may involve coming into the office an hour later and leaving an hour early, or visa versa. This way, you can get to your destination sooner with fewer stops and idle time.
- Find alternative modes of transportation – Carpool or use public transportation whenever possible. This can include trips to work, school, sports practice or a night on the town. You should also consider walking or cycling to nearby locations.

About Take Charge America

Founded in 1987, Take Charge America, Inc. is a non-profit organization headquartered in Phoenix, Ariz. TCA offers a variety of services including financial education, credit counseling, and debt management.

To learn more about TCA or its programs please call 1-800-823-7396 or visit www.takechargeamerica.org.

Boats need special care to avoid damage during severe weather

Scott Croft
BoatU.S.

Boaters are facing another year of challenges flowing from the possibility of a more severe weather year according to a national organization.

BoatU.S., the nation's largest organization of recreational boaters, recently wrapped up an industry-wide hurricane planning conference. And the news is in: thousands of recreational boaters are facing another challenging year of predicted increased hurricane activity, with potentially more frequent storms this summer and fall, and each with greater intensity.

What does this mean for boaters in hurricane states?

Based on 40 years of hurricane-related insurance claims files and speaking to countless boaters and marina operators about their hurricane plans, “We have learned that although it is difficult to prevent all damage from occurring, there are far more opportunities for hurricane damage to be lessened,” says Bob Adriance, director of

the BoatU.S. Damage Avoidance Program. “We are talking about the difference between some gel coat scratches or a dinged rub rail, and the total destruction or sinking of a boat,” he added.

Adriance says boaters can rise to the challenge, but need to be reminded why they should spend time and effort to prepare their boats for a hurricane. Here are six potential reasons why that some boats may not make it safely through the end of the 2007 hurricane season:

•**YOU DID NOTHING.**

Year after year, some boaters fail to make a serious effort at hurricane preparation. Whether you are new to boating or been on the water for years, doing nothing or making only a token effort will most certainly lead to a bad conclusion. If you are out of town during hurricane season, pay someone to prepare your boat if a storm comes. Many insurance policies provide coverage for professional evacuation or storm preparation.

•**THE GUY WITH THE BOAT**

IN THE SLIP NEXT TO YOU, OR OUT IN THE MOORING FIELD, DID LITTLE OR NOTHING. There is nothing worse than seeing a poorly prepared boat break loose and take down a dozen others that were properly prepared. Boaters need to come together to help ensure their slip or mooring mates embrace hurricane planning. Ultimately, the success or failure of your own hurricane preparation efforts depend upon the steps taken by your slip mates as well your marina or yacht club.

•**YOU DIDN'T TALK TO YOUR MARINA ABOUT THEIR HURRICANE PLANS.** BoatU.S. has found that hurricane damage prevention requires a full partnership with your marina or boat club. If you have not already coordinated a hurricane plan with your marina manager, do it today. As in the day before tomorrow.

•**YOU DIDN'T GO TO <http://www.BoatUS.com/hurricanes>** to brush up on your hurricane planning. You failed to take advantage of the free online hurricane preparation worksheet

and storm planning information, or didn't use the Web site's “spaghetti” models to track an approaching storm. It's free. You could have done it at any time of day or night.

•**YOUR BOAT OR YACHT CLUB'S LEADERSHIP DIDN'T REVIEW THE CLUB HURRICANE PLANNING GUIDE** written by their peers at the Houston Yacht Club. HYC has developed the most comprehensive boat and yacht club storm planning guide – developed from years of storm hardened experience – and it is completely free to download and discuss at your club's monthly meeting. Finger-pointing after a storm won't get your sunken boat back.

•**YOU WAITED UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE.** Did you see the weather forecast on the evening news? Chances are so did everyone else and if you've waited to buy hurricane gear such as extra dock lines, chafe protection, extra anchors and other gear, it will be long gone from the store shelves by the time you got there.

BoatU.S. – Boat Owners Association of The United States – is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing its 670,000 members with a wide array of consumer services including a group-rate marine insurance program that insures nearly a quarter million boats; the largest fleet of more than 500 towing assistance vessels; discounts on fuel, slips, and repairs at over 870 Co-operating Marinas; boat financing; and a subscription to *BoatU.S. Magazine*, the most widely read boating publication in the U.S. For membership information visit <http://www.BoatUS.com> or call 800-395-2628.



Army’s newest modular combat team makes impressive mark

Fred Baker
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – In its first deployment to Iraq, one of the Army’s newest modular light infantry brigade combat teams is making its mark under the president’s troop plus-up plan, the brigade’s top officer said in a May 25 briefing to Pentagon reporters.

The 1st Infantry Division’s 4th Brigade Combat Team from Fort Riley, Kan., is deployed as part of the troop plus-up to the east and west Rashid security districts in the Multinational Division Baghdad area. It is partnered with the 2nd Infantry Division’s 3rd

Stryker Brigade from Fort Lewis, Wash., and three Iraqi security force brigades. Together, the troops are clearing an area about 58 square miles, roughly the size of San Francisco, home to about 700,000 Iraqis.

In the past three weeks, under Operation Dragon Fire, the troops have cleared 45 neighborhoods, detained 94 terrorist suspects, freed two kidnapped citizens and captured 397 explosive munitions, 245 weapons systems, 150 IEDs and enough components to make 3,000 more IEDs, said Col. Ricky Gibbs, BCT and Task Force Dragon commander.

They’ve also destroyed two torture houses and a terrorist safe haven, Gibbs said.

It has not come without loss to the units, though. Seven U.S. Soldiers have been killed in the plus-up to clear the area.

Initially, attacks were high against the troops as they moved in and secured the area. Now, direct attacks are down, but the use of IEDs against the troops has increased, Gibbs said.

The troops man five joint security stations and 20 coalition outposts in the area. They live at the outposts until rotating back to the forward operating base. Gibbs said living in the

communities allows the troops to gain the trust of the Iraqi people. This reaps big dividends in the fight, he said.

“The tips that are coming in from the people are astronomical, and that’s allowing us to find these terrorists, or the Takfir, as the locals call them, and take them off the street,” Gibbs said.

The joint security stations are similar to local police stations and are located in the neighborhoods.

There has been a decrease in violence, he said, primarily because of the nearly doubled troop presence.

Gibbs said his troops are working side by side with an Iraqi army brigade and two police brigades. He said they co-plan, rehearse and share intelligence, and in some cases the Iraqi forces lead the operations.

Even so, Gibbs said, the Iraqi police forces have yet to earn the full confidence of the people there to the level that the Iraqi army has. Gibbs said one of his biggest concerns was the ability of the Iraqi police force to hire enough to fill its ranks.

The task force also is working to restore essential services in the area. Priorities have been to restore sanitation services and electrical power, with 127 active projects throughout the districts and another 62 projects planned.

Spc. A.J. Jackson looks for snipers during a cordon and search in Baghdad on May 16. Jackson is assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.



Photo by Sgt. Tierney P. Nowland

Viewpoint

INFORMATION, OPINIONS AND COMMENTARY

Risky behavior places Soldiers in danger

Marla Jones
Deputy Public Affairs Officer

A drinking game called the “Power Hour” at an Augusta hotel touched off a series of events that led to a female trainee being taken to the hospital on the night of Nov. 4, 2006. The next morning she said she realized she may have had sex, but did not remember it.

At the same hotel last September, a female trainee got highly intoxicated and woke up the next morning, also realizing that she had had sex with a fellow trainee.

The men they had sex with were acquitted of rape charges in trials this spring, although in one case the man was convicted of indecent acts. A similar case in the summer of 2006 resulted in a rape conviction.

Neither one of these two young female Soldiers intended to have sex with the male Soldiers they were partying with, according to their testimony, but they were drunk, and no one at the scene stepped up to protect them.

Witnesses testified that after the “Power Hour” game, the female Soldier appeared to be consenting to sex.

Both women had images taken of them in an intoxicated state, and the photos were shown to others in their unit.

Both women were so intoxicated, they may have participated in the sex. Others observed them, but did not intervene, either because they were drunk themselves or because they thought it was amusing to see people drunk.

The man who encouraged a 19-year-old Soldier who had been flirting with him to drink shots of whisky in the “Power Hour” drinking game, later stated to investigators that he knew the woman was so intoxicated that she was not capable of consenting to have sex with anyone that evening. Her blood alcohol level

Alcohol and sex make a volatile mix for male and female service members

was estimated to be .20 or higher in the hours before she was taken to the hospital.

Trainees in the 15th Regimental Signal Brigade are given classes and safety briefings on sexual assault and on drinking. Both male and female trainees are warned not to engage in sex with a person who has been drinking.

What are the factors that contributed to these incidents of excessive drinking and sex among young Soldiers?

--in many cases, trainees are drinking even though they are underage and have little tolerance for alcohol,

--although both women and men should have a “Battle Buddy” with them for protection, in many cases, the “Battle Buddies” do not intervene to stop their friend from engaging in sex,

--deplorable conduct on the part of men and women—women drinking to get “wasted” and men taking advantage of women who are impaired by alcohol,

--trainees are sleeping in communal hotel rooms, in close contact with one another. The law concerning rape when a person is drunk is concerned with whether the person has the ability to give consent. Intoxication of the accused person is not a defense.

According to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, “if the

alleged victim was incapable of giving consent, and if the accused knew or had reasonable cause to know that the alleged victim was incapable of giving consent because the potential victim was asleep, unconscious, or intoxicated, the act of sexual intercourse was done by force and without consent.”

It is difficult for juries to convict if the victim is not sure what happened and if the evidence suggests consent, even though consent may have been given and then withdrawn.

At issue is the behavior of young Soldiers when they drink. Both male and female Soldiers have a lot to lose if they engage in this type of irresponsible drinking.

In these cases, a celebratory, party atmosphere rapidly turns into pain and regret for some Soldiers.

A 10-second video can be placed on YouTube immediately, and may be passed around on the internet for millions to see.

Defending yourself at trial by court-martial or suffering the humiliation and pain of rape are the real world consequences of irresponsible behavior with alcohol.

Rape is a crime. It can never be justified or excused.

Victims should report an assault. The Fort Gordon Sexual Assault Hotline is (706) 791-6297.

The Army allows for restricted reporting, which keeps the information confidential. At Fort Gordon, there is a victim advocate available 24 hours a day.

Sexual assault can be reported to the chain of command, Military Police or the local sheriff’s office. That would be an unrestricted report.

There is a need for caution and judgment in situations involving drinking. Both men and women need to be aware and be smart—aware of whom they are with and smart about their actions. Because a jury may find it almost impossible to decide whether there was consent.

Marla Jones covers courts-martials for The Signal News.

Feedback...

By Bonnie Heater

What is the significance of Flag Day?



It means respecting your country.

**Sgt. 1st Class
Brandon Kent
Junior ROTC
Academy of Richmond
County High School**



It's to honor the flag and the values behind it.

**Sgt. Elizabeth Oakley
Junior ROTC
Harlem High School**



I believe it's to honor all veterans and the military.

**Sgt. 1st Class
Jessica Hill
Junior ROTC
Lucy Laney High School**



It's for Americans to show their patriotism for the United States of America.

**Cpl. Joshua Booze
Junior ROTC
Evans High School**



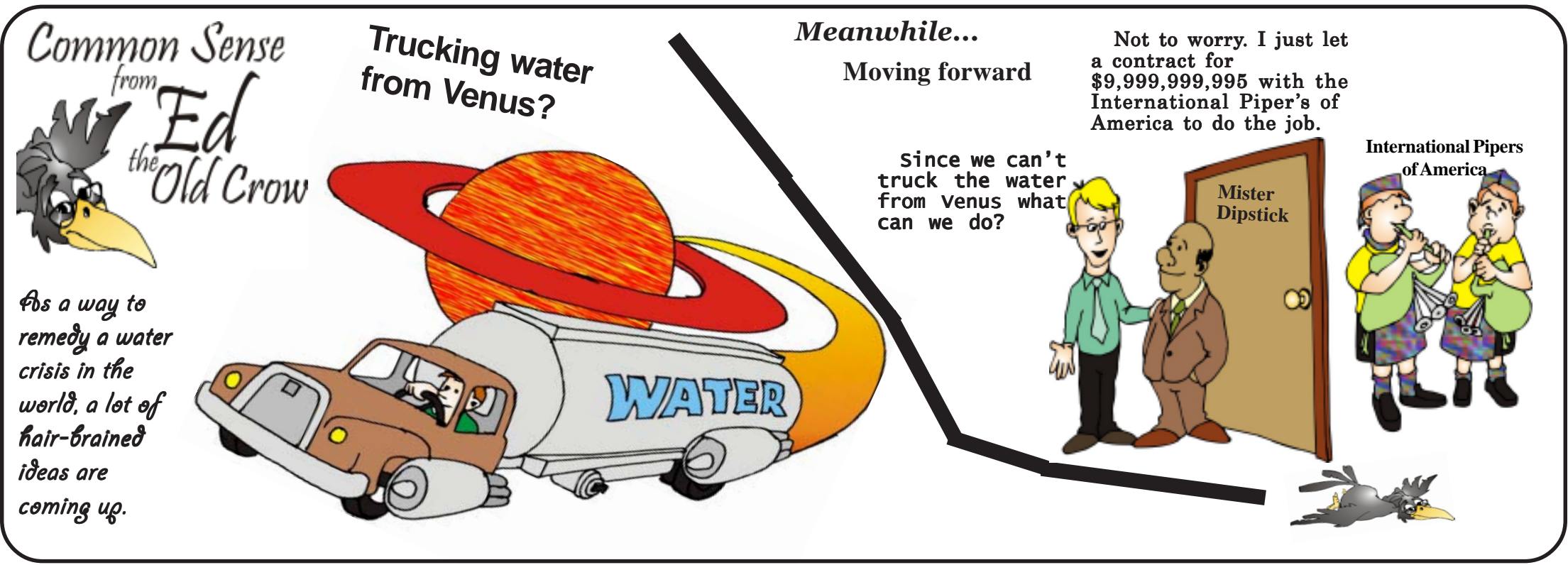
We are paying respect to our nation's flag and remembering our history.

**Cpl. Joshua Jones
Junior ROTC
Evans High School**



It's a day you honor the flag. It's special because it shows we are a united country.

**Sgt. 1st Class
Vanessa Baldwin
Junior ROTC
Hephzibah High School**



The Signal

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Soldiers give Iraqi boy hope for future

Spc. Amanda Morrissey
Army News Service

AL TINA, Iraq – There are certain expectations of U.S. Soldiers going “outside the wire” to conduct humanitarian missions in villages around their military bases. Saving a boy with a heart defect is generally not one of those expectations.

A medical team from the 82nd Field Artillery Regiment’s 5th Battalion has taken the rare opportunity to help eight-year-old Mahmood Amer Hamad.

“When I came here, the prior battalion surgeon had found out about this boy,” said Capt. Abel Alfonso, battalion surgeon. “He had tried to get Mahmood examined in Mosul, but they didn’t have the proper equipment there. That’s when I came in and made the arrangements to have cardiologists come here to see the boy.”

While the boy’s situation was first discovered about ten months



Photo by Spc. Amanda Morrissey

Maj. Todd Villines, a cardiologist with 399th Combat Surgical Hospital, performs an echocardiogram on Mahmood Amer Hamad, 8, while his father, Amer Hamad Randan, comforts him. The test is a part of the 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment medical team’s effort to treat his heart defect. Mahmood has a ventricle sepal defect, which is a hole in his heart, and requires corrective surgery.

ago by the 37th Field Artillery Regiment’s 1st Battalion, the 82nd FAR’s 5th Bn. has taken up the cause to get Mahmood life-saving medical attention.

“The American Soldiers came to our village, and I told them about my son,” said Amer Hamad Randan, Mahmood’s father. “I asked them to help Mahmood, and they told me they would help.”

Capt. Alfonso contacted Maj. Todd Villines, a cardiologist, and Maj. Ted Koutlas, a cardiac surgeon, both with 399th Combat Surgical Hospital at Contingency Operating Base Speicher. They flew to Forward Operating Base Qyayyarah with a portable echocardiogram machine to examine Mahmood and determine the severity of Mahmood’s heart defect May 28.

“Mahmood has a ventricle sepal defect, which is an abnormal connection between the right and left ventricles of the heart,” Maj. Villines said. “It’s like a leak from one side of the heart to the other that puts a strain on the right ventricle. If left uncorrected, it would likely over time lead to permanent heart damage, then heart failure and early death.”

Catching and correcting the defect early improves Mahmood’s chance of leading a normal life.

“That’s what is so gratifying about coming here and treating this little guy. We can really make an impact on his future,” said Maj. Villines.

Now that tests have shown the exact size and location of the hole in Mahmood’s heart, they believe he is a perfect candidate for corrective surgery.

“He doesn’t have severe enlargement of his heart or severe heart damage, he’s fairly young, and he’s at a stage where we can correct this and it’ll improve how his heart works now,” Maj. Villines said.

With surgery next, Capt. Alfonso is worried about funding the procedure, as well as the costs associated with travel and accommodations. One option is to send Mahmood to Amman, Jordan, which would cost approximately \$10,000. Another option is to send Mahmood to the United States.

“I do probably about 12 to 15 charity cases a year back home, and I’d certainly be glad to operate on him,” Maj. Koutlas said. “We work with a program called Samaritan’s Purse, and it sponsors kids from different countries. I’ve operated on kids from Mongolia, Bosnia and Honduras. I’m sure they’d be willing to help us operate on Mahmood.”

While ideal, this option presents its own challenges. The costs of the treatment itself would be taken care of, but there is still the matter of funding the plane tickets for

Mahmood and a guardian, as well as determining who would make the trip with the boy, and who would care for his nine brothers and sisters still in Iraq.

Despite the logistical obstacles, the 5th Bn., 82nd FAR medical team is optimistic and determined to bring about a positive outcome for the child.

“There are lots of kids out there who need help,” Capt. Alfonso said. “We can’t save the world, but we can make a difference in the life of one kid, and that makes it all worthwhile.”

My homeboy Jesus

1st Lt. John Smith
Chaplain candidate

People magazine once noted that the new fashion statement of the moment was “Jesus is My Homeboy” found on T-shirts and sweatshirts. (Also available was Mary is My Homegirl). From Pamela Anderson and Carmen Electra to Springfield, Missouri “homeboy” Brad Pitt, this new “tongue-in-cheek” attire has caught the attention of the celebrity trendsetters. Anderson, Electra and Pitt et. al. does not readily conjure up images of piety nor do I think they have any intent to do so. We could blast the Urban Outfitters retail chain for selling this line of clothing and celebrities for making it trendy for image-conscious consumers to consider purchasing these items.

However, that would probably just result in more people scurrying off to purchase that momentary phenomenon. Let me be a bit more self-critical. Somehow, Jesus has been reduced to a fashion trend. Urban Outfitters is not the problem, nor are the people who buy this fashionable line of clothing. If Jesus is reduced to the latest “vision of cool”, people who are serious about following Jesus ought to take note. One of my favorite texts is

II Corinthians 5:20. “We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us.”(NIV)

What kind of appeal is offered when fashion designers have such a limited view of Jesus that relationship with Him is merely a (poorly) designed image on a T-shirt? I have a feeling that God’s gaze of concern is not at Pamela Anderson or Brad Pitt (nor any other “lesser known” consumer). God may well be staring at people like you and I; Christian communities inhabited by followers of Jesus and wondering, “How did it ever come to this?”

Animosity toward Jesus is quite understandable; that’s a standard reality in Christian history! But purporting alignment with the Son of God by means of a trendy piece of clothing.....? Somehow I think we Christians have some explaining to do. Being reduced to an inspirational source for the fashion industry to make money is not what is meant by being the “salt of the earth and the light of the world.”

As we take the opportunity to engage introspectively with regard to our personal walk and commitment to our Lord, take time to share the reality of Christ (Savior of the world—not fashion statement) with others.

Fisher-Price Rainforest Infant Swings recalled

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, on May 31 announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

Name of product: Rainforest Open Top Take-Along™Swings
Units: About 112,000 (an additional 15,000 were sold worldwide)

Importer: Fisher-Price, of East Aurora, NY

Hazard: Infants can shift to one side of the swing and become caught between the frame and seat, posing an entrapment hazard.

Incidents/Injuries: Fisher-Price has received 60 reports of the infants becoming entrapped, resulting in cuts, bumps, bruises and red marks.

Description: This recall involves Portable Rainforest Take Along Swings with a palm tree mobile and two hanging plush toys. The swings are approximately 23-inches-high and have two carry handles on the left and right sides. Model numbers K7203, K7192 and K7195 are included in the recall. Model numbers are located under the right handle on the swing. No other collection of Rainforest swings or products are included in this recall.

Sold at: Discount department stores and toy stores nationwide from November 2006 to May 2007 for about \$65.

Manufactured in: China

Remedy: Consumers should immediately stop using the swing and contact Fisher-Price for instructions on how to return it to receive a voucher for a replacement product.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, call Fisher-Price toll-free at (888) 303-5631 anytime, or visit the firm’s Web site at www.service.mattel.com

Infant entrapment hazard



Firm’s Recall Hotline: (888) 303-5631
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

Chapel Call

Collective Protestant Services

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. – Liturgical Service, Bicentennial Chapel
9:30 a.m. – Contemporary Worship Service, Friendship Chapel
10:30 a.m. – Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel
12:00 a.m. – Faith Gospel Service, Good Shepherd Chapel
11:00 a.m. – Bicentennial Chapel
11:00 a.m. – Friendship Chapel

Catholic Services

Daily, Tues – Fri, 11:45 a.m., EAMC Chapel
Daily, Mon – Thur, 12:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel
Saturday, 3:30 p.m., Confessions, Good Shepherd
Saturday, 5:00 p.m., Vigil Mass, Good Shepherd

Sunday Masses

8:30 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel
10:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel
11:45 a.m., EAMC Chapel

Jewish Activities

Holy Day, Sabbath and Daily
Services available off post
CPT Shoenholz, 791-6109

Islamic Services

Jumah (Friday) Prayer Services Oct-Apr, from 12:45-1:30, and Apr-Oct from 1:15-1:45 – CPO (Ret) Abuwi - 772-4303

Denominational Services

LDS Service – Sunday 1:30-4:30 p.m., Friendship Chapel
LDS Representative is Mr. Wright - 364-6297

Religious Education

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday school, Religious Ed Ctr
Sunday, 11:30 a.m., Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and Sacramental Preparation, Religious Ed Ctr (Sep-May)
Youth Groups and Other RE Programs, Mr. Dillard – 791-4703

Adult Bible Studies

Sunday 9:30 a.m., Protestant Adult Studies, Religious Ed Ctr
Sunday 11:30 a.m., Catholic “God and Coffee”, Family Life Ctr
Tuesday 12:00 a.m., EAMC Bible Study, Din Facility, 3rd floor
Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Prot Women of the Chapel, Bicentennial
Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Little Rock Study, Good Shepherd Chapel
Wednesday 9:00 a.m., Prot Women of the Chapel, Bicentennial
Wednesday 11:30 a.m., Post-wide Luncheon, Bicentennial
Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Discipleship Training, Friendship Chapel
Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Faith Gospel Svc at Bicentennial Chapel
Wednesday 7:00 p.m., LDS FHE, Rel Support Ofc, - 364-6297
Wednesday 1200 a.m., 513th at Motor Pool Conf Rm
Wednesday 11:30 a.m., Jewish Study, 1st Wed, Friendship Chapel
Thursday before 1st Friday, 6:30 p.m.,
Military Council of Catholic Women, Good Shepherd Chapel

Chapel Directory

Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg 28414, Brainard Ave – 791-2945
Good Shepherd Chapel, Bldg 29608, Barnes Ave – 791-4829
Faith Gospel Service – 791-5166
Friendship Chapel, Bldg 25603, Barnes Ave – 791-2056
EAMC Chapel, Hospital, 3rd floor - 787-6667
Chaplain Family Life Center Bldg 38804, Academic Dr - 791-7421
Religious Education Center, Bldg 39709, 39th St – 791-4703
Religious Support Office, Bldg 29601, Barnes Ave – 791-5653



Volunteer Corner

Interesting opportunities available

If you are interested in giving your time and efforts to any of the following volunteer opportunities in the Central Savannah River Area, contact Linda Means at meansl@gordon.army.mil. Provide your name, rank, organization, work and home telephone numbers. If your class is interested in accepting the cause as a community relations project, provide the complete names and ranks of each volunteer with a designated POC and contact info. For more information, call (706) 791-1871.

GROVETOWN AGAINST DRUGS SUMMER CAMP JUNE 11-22

The Grovetown Department of Public Safety and the Grovetown Recreation Department are hosting a free camp at Liberty Park Community Center on Newmantown Road for all children that live in the Grovetown area. The children play various sports and do numerous indoor activities from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers are needed to serve as role models, while working with the children. Volunteers do not need to work every day, even one day may make a difference in the lives of these children.

SWAMP SOIREE JUNE 14

This is the annual fundraiser for the Southeastern Natural Sciences Academy, which is a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with the mission to promote environmental stewardship through education, research, and outreach. The goals of the Academy in general are to promote clean water, to protect fresh water habitats, and to serve as a catalyst for community participation in natural resources management. Volunteers are needed at the site of the fundraiser from 4:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. to direct traffic and parking. Dress is golf shirts and khaki shorts or pants. Volunteers will be provided water and a catered meal.

2007 C SCOW NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNE 15-17

The Greater Augusta Sports Council and the Augusta Sailing Club are hosting this event at Lake Thurmond. Volunteers are needed throughout the three days to assist with putting boats in and out of the water, spotting boats, using VHF radios to communicate with drivers, driving golf carts to taxi participants and manning the registration area. Volunteers

will receive a hat and T-shirt and will be provided all meals and refreshments during the day. Please sign-up prior to June 11 and indicate which day you would like to work.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL REGATTA JUNE 23-24

A dozen volunteers are needed to help run this regatta that will be held at Langley Pond, off Highway #1, in Langley, S.C. from 7:15 a.m. until approximately 1:30 p.m. each day. Experienced boat drivers are needed, but training will be provided to willing volunteers. This is your opportunity to learn a new skill. Please sign up by June 15th.

GROVETOWN 4TH OF JULY BARBECUE JULY 4

What better way of celebrating our Nation’s independence than spending time with your Grovetown neighbors? The City of Grovetown holds a free barbecue for all of its residents at the Grovetown Community Center at Liberty Hill Park on Newmantown Road. They are in need of volunteers to help serve food from 11:15 a.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. In return, you will receive all the barbecue that you can possibly eat, as well as many appreciative smiles.

OPERATION HOMEFRONT-GEORGIA

This non-profit organization is dedicated to providing support and service to deployed service member’s families and wounded warriors. In December 2006, Operation Homefront-Georgia provided over \$32,000 in goods and service assistance alone. Volunteers are needed in the Central Savannah River Area.

If interested in finding out how you can help, call 1-800-390-2115 or visit www.operationhomefront.net/georgia fill out an application online.

Dover receives its first C-17

2nd Lt. Nicole Langley
436th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

LONG BEACH, Calif. — With much anticipation, a combined flight crew from the 436th and 512th Airlift Wings departed Dover Air Force Base May 29 for Long Beach, Calif., where they assumed ownership of the base’s first C-17 Globemaster III aircraft from Boeing May 31.

After years of planning and preparation, the addition of a new airframe to Dover’s current all-C-5 Galaxy fleet is now a reality.

For Dover’s first crew to fly the new C-17, known as the Spirit of the Constitution, this is a monumental trip, said Maj. Justin Riddle, 3rd Airlift Squadron and the aircraft commander for this trip.

“When I arrived in Dover in May 2006, the C-17 transition was just beginning,” said Riddle. “For the next year, I witnessed Dover’s transformation and how every base agency contributed towards the beddown.

“Today, it’s an honor to be selected to command Dover’s first C-17 sortie and to witness the beginning of a new chapter in our history,” he said.

A team of pilots and loadmasters who also have made their marks on Dover’s history as some of the base’s

first C-17 professionals, joined Major Riddle as crewmembers on this inaugural trip.

The history-making crew consisted of Maj. Kevin Higginbotham, 326th Airlift Squadron and Team Dover’s first Reserve C-17 pilot; Capt. Paul Scambos, 3rd Airlift Squadron’s chief of C-17 tactics; and Dover’s first active-duty and Reserve C-17 loadmasters: Master Sgt. Steve Rucker, 3rd AS, and Master Sgt. Mike Wright, 326th AS.

“As one of the first people to work with the C-17 Program Integration Office for the last three years, it’s nice to actually help bring the first airplane to Dover Air Force Base,” said Sergeant Wright.

While not all of the crew has been involved in the process for as long as Wright, the entire team is proud to be part of something so significant.

“So much work and effort has gone into the C-17s arriving in Dover. To be a small part of that is an honor and something I will always remember,” said Captain Scambos, who arrived at Dover in January after having flown C-17s at Charleston AFB, S.C.

Once the C-17 was accepted, the crew then made the cross-country trek to McGuire

AFB, N.J.

In addition to the Dover crew, Brig. Gen. Alfred Stewart, 21st Expeditionary Mobility Task Force commander at McGuire AFB served as the delivery official and flew onboard the aircraft from Long Beach to McGuire, where the aircraft will remain until early June 4.

Gen. Duncan McNabb, Air Mobility Command commander, will assume the position of delivery official June 4 and fly the aircraft into Dover for its grand arrival.

After the short flight from McGuire to Dover, the new Globemaster III and its crew will be welcomed by the Dover community.

A full-scale arrival ceremony is planned for the C-17 June 4. With local, state, AMC, Air Force and Boeing officials on the guest list, the new aircraft will take its place alongside the C-5.

“(June 4) will be a historic day for Team Dover,” said Scambos. “The arrival of America’s newest and most-capable airlifter gives Dover an unmatched global air transportation capability.

“This new addition, on top of the existing C-5 platform, will give Dover the ability to move anything, at anytime, anywhere on earth well, into the 21st century.”



U.S. Air Force photo by Abner Guzman

Dover Air Force Base, Del., will receive its first C-17 Globemaster III, similar to these shown here, on June 4. A specially selected aircrew traveled to Long Beach, Calif., to take delivery of “The Spirit of the Constitution” from the Boeing Company and fly it back to Dover.

Bouchard

from page 1

“I again thank General Bouchard for all he has done for this command,” said Strong. “Joe Capps will have immensely large shoes to fill!” Capps, currently director of Enterprise Systems Technology Activity for the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Army Signal Command, is expected to report here on Sept. 1 as the new deputy to the commanding general U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon.

Following his remarks, General Strong presented Bouchard with the Legion of Merit Medal for his exceptional meritorious service from Aug. 7, 2005 to June 25, 2007 as the deputy commanding general of the

Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general delivers a gag gift to Marcia Bouchard and her husband Brig. Gen. Ronald Bouchard, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon deputy commanding general, June 1, during a farewell luncheon for the Bouchard family. The souvenir he delivered to the Bouchards reminded the couple of an incident on the golf course with a golf cart and a broken stanchion.



Photo by Jimmy Buttington

Deployed Airman weds over teleconference

Staff Sgt. Craig Seals
455th Air Expeditionary Wing

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — An Airman fighting the war on terrorism from Bagram Air Base said “I do” to his bride May 26

over a video teleconference at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

The VTC wedding connected Senior Airman Carlos Moreno of the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron with his new wife,

Carolina, from Moreno’s home station of Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., with his parents and co-workers in attendance. On the Bagram AB side of the teleconference, Airman Moreno was joined by many of his friends and co-

workers from his deployed location as witnesses and to show their support.

During the ceremony, a priest at Vandenberg AFB recited the vows as Carolina and Moreno repeated them.

After the final “I do’s,” Airman Moreno was congratulated by his fellow security forces Airmen and was allowed some time to speak with his new bride and family in attendance at Vandenberg AFB.

Moreno took the opportunity to thank all the individuals that made this possible at both ends.

Moreno is deployed from the 30th Security Forces Squadron at Vandenberg AFB and plans to take his new wife, Carolina, on their honeymoon after he returns from his deployment.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Craig Seals

Senior Airman Carlos Moreno (far right) watches the video teleconference screen as he and his fiancée, Carolina, exchange vows during a VTC wedding May 26 from Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, to Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. Moreno is assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. Members of the 455th ESFS were present to witness the ceremony and show their support. Airman Moreno is deployed from the 30th Security Forces Squadron at Vandenberg AFB.

Skaters hope to show support

Tammy Moehlman
Signal staff

In the rain they shine. Local youths put on their second performance as they expand their efforts to entertain the troops in a show of support. The group calls themselves the Freedom Skaters. They performed their show Operation Freedom Skate for the Youth Challenge Academy cadets on Fort Gordon last Saturday afternoon. Their mission is to show their support of the military and all the sacrifices the troops make for the good of our nation.

“This is kind of their way of thanking the military for putting their lives on the line. They all said they didn’t know what they could do individually, but they all started talking and got together and said we skate and we could put on acts,” said Fran McNeal, mother of the youngest skater, Caleb.

The rapidly growing group of skaters range from age 8 to 30 years old. The team came together with the support of the Red Wing Rollerway in Augusta where they practice every Friday and Saturday. Their first performance was for troops at a base in South Carolina last December. Saturday’s performance was in the works for four to five months and is just one of what they hope will be many performances.

“Red Wing is supporting it because they want to show the kids what they can do. They want them to know that the opportunity is there, they just have to take it,” said Gordon Love, one of the organizers of the skate group. “We came up with this idea as a way to show people what kids can do if you give them an opportunity and work with them.”

The group prepared a performance for the Cadets at YCA, but had to modify most of it due to the heavy rains that drenched the paved area.

Soaked by the rain and music blasting the skaters danced and entertained the poncho covered cadets. Although the rain covered them, some cadets danced in the rain puddles at their feet.

As a source of inspiration, one skater was acknowledged for his success and bravery against a disease that almost killed him. At six years old Caleb McNeal, 8, was suddenly stricken with spinal meningitis which doctors feared might leave him crippled. Amazingly Caleb walked out of the hospital two weeks later with only hearing loss in one ear.

“The more they told him what he couldn’t do the more determined he was,” said McNeal.

Doctors suggested skating as a form of physical therapy for Caleb whose muscles needed to be retrained after temporary paralysis at the onset of the illness.

“They said it teaches balance and use of his legs,” added McNeal.

During his time in the hospital the young boy reassured his parents that it’s not that bad and said that the Soldiers go through worse things. His thoughts were not on himself, but with the Soldiers in Iraq.

Sometimes from the innocent mouths of children you find the most honest words of support and encouragement.

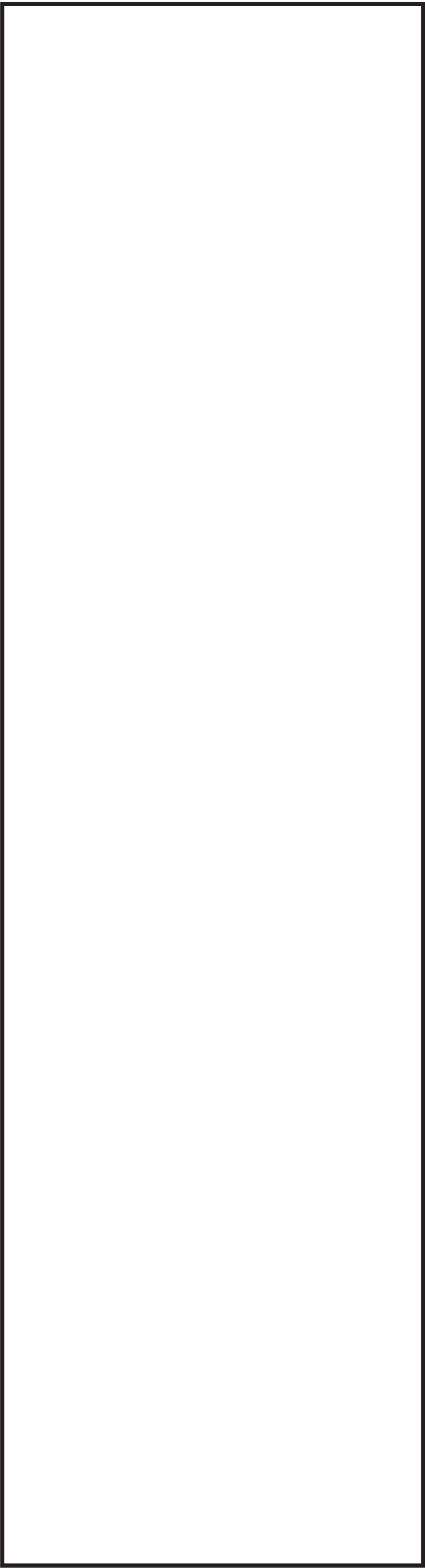
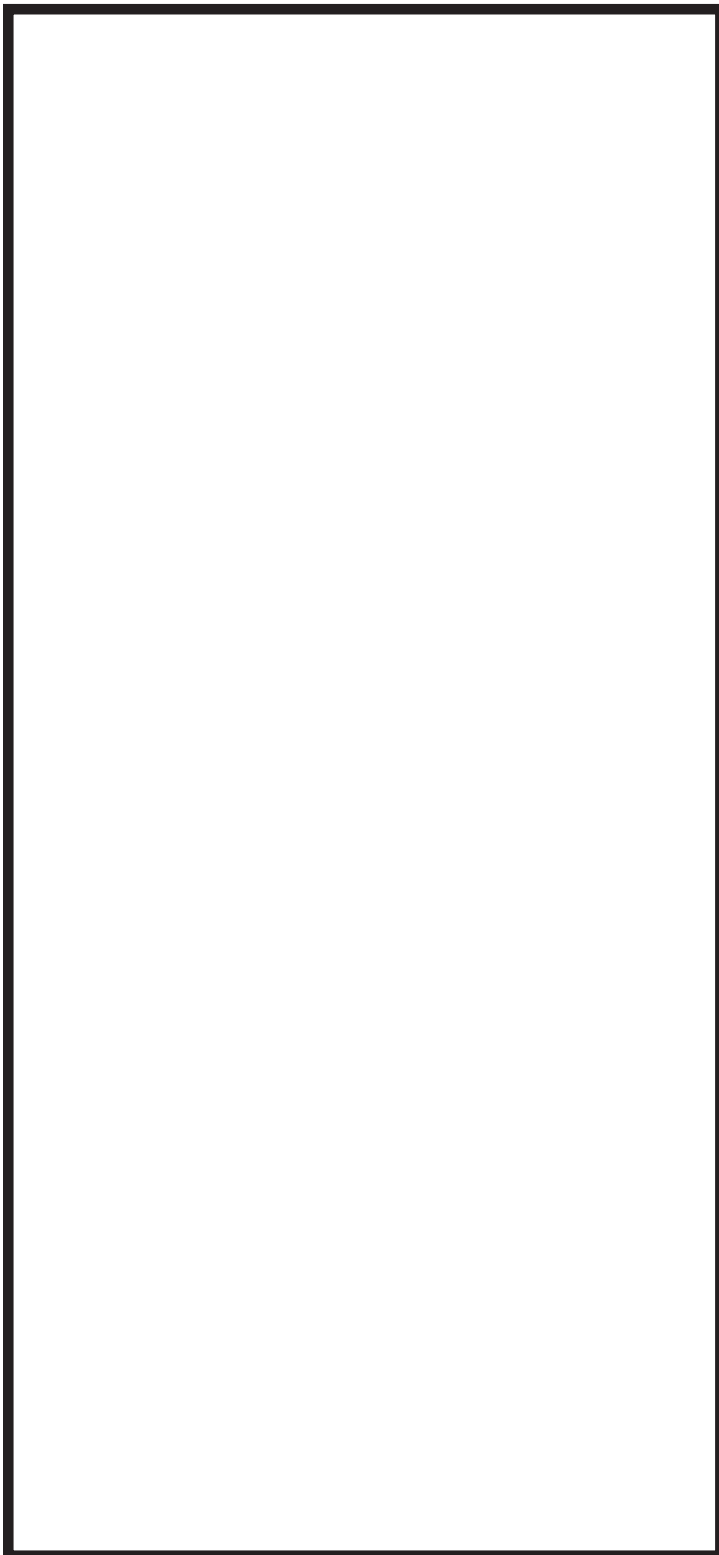
Young Caleb could only think of one thing to say to the troops in Iraq saying, “just don’t give up.”



Photos by Tammy Moehlman

(Above) Caleb McNeal, 8, is a member of the Freedom Skaters who performed Operation Freedom Skate June 2 at the Youth Challenge Academy on Fort Gordon. Caleb started skating as a form of physical therapy two years ago after he recovered from a battle with spinal meningitis. Now the skating is a way for him to show support for the troops.

(Below) Branden Coursey, Freedom Skater, entertained YCA cadets with handstands and spits among other tricks during Operation Freedom Skate June 2 on Fort Gordon.



Community Events

Special Forces recruiting

The Special Forces Recruiting Team will be at Fort Gordon **Monday** through **Wednesday**. Briefings will be offered 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 5 p.m. on Tuesday at the Fort Gordon Education Center. In addition, a diagnostic Army Physical Fitness Test will be given 7 a.m. Wednesday for all interested candidates.

The Special Forces community is expanding. A battalion will be added to each of the five Active Groups within the next few years

Volunteers are sought to fill these coveted and hard earned positions. Family members are encouraged to attend the briefings.

For more information call (912) 767-1400 or (877) 840-8501.

Gym grand opening

The Power House Gym, located at Building 29607 on Barnes Avenue on post will have a grand opening from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 22, 23 and 24. There will be door prizes and refreshments. Membership is free for active duty military, reservists, and National Guard members and their family members. Early sign up is slated for June 15 and 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A valid military ID card is required to sign up for membership.

For more information, call (706) 796-4000.

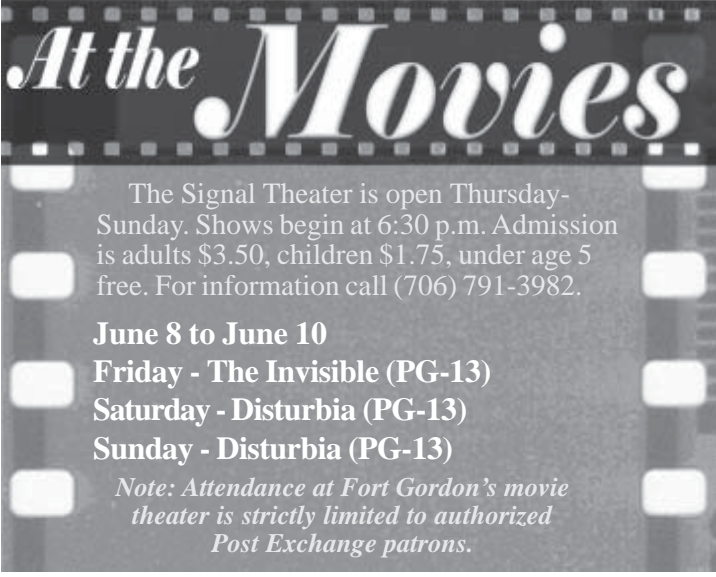
“Burn Out and Stress”

A Brown Bag training session on “Burn Out and Stress” will be held 11:30 a.m., **June 19** in Building 13 on 39th Alley off 7th Avenue. There will be an interesting speaker, hand-made door prizes, free favors, handouts and more. Learn the secret to preventing “Burn Out.” This training is sponsored by the EEO and the Special Emphasis Committee.

For more information, call (706) 791-455.

FEW Installation of Officers

The Federally Employed Women's organization on post will install new officers 11:30 a.m., **Thursday** in the Magnolia Room of the Fort Gordon Club. The guest speaker is Rhonda Trent, the FEW national president. All



Federal employees, military members, and FEW members are welcome. There will be a door prize.

For more information, call FEW President Lula Whitehead at (706) 791-4418.

Retirement dinner

The School of Information Technology is hosting a retirement dinner for Sgt. Maj. Willie Williams, 4 - 9 p.m., **July 27** in the North Ballroom of the Gordon Club. Cost is \$18 per person; dress is business attire. RSVP no later than July 20.

For information call Sgt. 1st Class Lorraine Brockington at (706) 791-1594.

Cub Scout Day Camp

A Cub Scout day camp in the Kiokee District is slated for **July 9-13** at Wildwood Park in Columbia County at Thurmond Lake in Georgia. Camp hours are 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. for cub scouts in the first through fifth grades.

Registration is \$75 per child prior to June 15 and \$90 after that date.

For more information consult www.jacacouncil.org.

Click it or Ticket

The Fort Gordon Provost Marshal's Office is joining hundreds of police and sheriff departments throughout the United States to launch a massive “Click it or Ticket” effort to enforce seat belt laws for adults and children.

Click It or Ticket raises awareness about one fact: If you don't buckle up, you'll get a ticket.

Click It or Ticket campaign for the Fort Gordon Installation will end June 25.

For information call (706) 791-7151.

Road closure

In support of ongoing Directorate of Public Works/Logistics and the Residential Communities Initiative construction projects, 38th Street at Academic Drive will be closed 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., on **June 18** through **June 24**.

All detours will be clearly marked and flagmen will be on-site during the closure, as necessary.

For information call (706) 791-6183.

Child care providers

The Fort Gordon Family Child Care program is currently seeking active duty military spouses to provide on post child care. There are many benefits in being a Fort Gordon Family Child Care Provider. For example, free training, use of the Lending Toy Library, Subsidy, Free National Association for Family Child Care, Free Child Development Associate and the United States Department of Agriculture food program reimbursements for all children in care to include your own.

Most rewarding is the enjoyment of working out of your own home, choosing your own hours, and supporting the military Families while still earning a competitive income. The next training will be held July 16-24. Registration will be held 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily, the week of June 18-22. For more information call (706) 791-3993/4440, about this rewarding career.

Change of Command

The Bravo Company, 551st Signal Battalion change of command will be 7:30 a.m., **Thursday** on Patriot Field.

Capt. Karl Allen will relinquish command to Capt. Dave Richard.

Army Show coming

U.S. Army Soldier Show public performances will be **Saturday** and **Sunday** in Alexander Hall, on Chamberlain Ave.

The Soldier Show is a song and dance revue performed by active duty Army personnel from all over the world.

The shows at 8 p.m. June 9 and 6 p.m. June 10 are open to the public and admission is free. Seating is limited, so early arrival is recommended.

For entrance to Fort Gordon, all persons 16 years or older must show a photo identification. All drivers must have current drivers license, proof of insurance and state license registration.

For information about this year's show, go to <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/entertainment/armysoldiershow/news.asp>.

4-H Club supports troops

The Middle Schoolers' and Teens' 4-H Club at Fort Gordon is collecting toiletries and non-perishable food items for Soldiers. The project is called “Help Support Our Troops.”

The collection box is located at the Youth Services Center on post.

For more information, call (706) 791-5104.

YCA needs tutors

The Fort Gordon Youth Challenge Academy needs caring adults to tutor high school level cadets in math, science, social studies, reading/literature, and writing in preparation for the GED Test.

Tutoring is normally Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8 p.m. on the YCA campus, but our need is so great that we can accommodate almost any schedule. Active duty Soldiers on swing or other shifts are encouraged to participate.

Helping at-risk teens is tremendously gratifying and it truly makes a difference in their lives. Tutors do not need to have a college degree, just a willingness to help and a basic understanding of the subject matter.

Call (706) 791-5997 or (706) 951-6337 for further information and to sign up.

‘Army Strong’ slogan becomes more meaningful to marketers

Mike A. Glasch

Army News Service

FORT JACKSON, S.C. – Those charged with spreading the Army's message now have a better understanding of what “Army Strong” means.

For three-and-a-half days last week, 48 men and women from marketing companies charged with promoting the Army were put through a mini-basic combat training here.

From the rigors of physical fitness training to the sense of pride and accomplishment of graduation, and such challenges as lack of sleep and stress, they experienced a small taste of the life of an Initial Entry Training Soldier.

“They were challenged physically and mentally,” said Staff Sgt. Shane Hanover, drill sergeant, Company E, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment. “We put a lot of information out there for them in a short period of time. It was a shock to their system.” After inprocessing, being issued uniforms and TA-50 gear, and getting a weapons-immersion class their first evening, the first shock came the next morning when they were awakened for physical training.

Steve Lozic, a digital assistant media planner for Universal McCann, said he expected to experience some physical and emotional hardship, but it still came as a surprise.

“Waking up at 4:30 and staying up for 20 hours at a time was very difficult on the body and the mind,” he said.

For Lauren Bauwens, an outreach events coordinator for Momentum Worldwide, the lack of sleep affected her in ways she never imagined.

“You confuse your left and your right more than you think you would,” she said.

In addition to the PT [physical training], they were taught some basic drill and ceremony, learned how to fire an M-16, experienced Improvised Explosive Device training, manned a security checkpoint and learned how to work in four-member teams to clear a building at the military operations on urbanized terrain site.

Liz Miklya, a media-relations consultant with Weber Shandwick, said the training at the MOUT site was an eye opener.

“Even though it was just a small taste, it gave me an appreciation of the Soldiers in Iraq doing that 24-7 all day in extreme heat,” she said. “It makes you admire the hard work, dedication, devotion and loyalty that Soldiers have.”

The goal of the mini-BCT was to give the participants a hands-on experience of what it's like to make the transformation from civilian to Soldier so that they can better tell the Army story.

Hanover said mission was accomplished. “I think they understand the Army message better,” he said. “You can't tell somebody about something you've never done or lived. They'll be able to put the message out there a bit more clearly.”

Ditto for Bauwens. “It helps that now we can see into the life of what a Soldier does,” Bauwens said. “It's not just all war and guns and fighting. It's discipline. You turn into a whole new person, get a new sense of character. When prospects are talking to recruiters, now we can listen in and interject a little bit.”

Mikyla put it in simpler terms. “Now when I explain ‘Army Strong,’ I really know what it means,” she said.

Sports

Sports UPDATE

Patriots Select Soccer Tryouts

The Columbia County Patriots Select Soccer tryouts for the 2007-2008 Seasonal Year start 11June for young athletes who want to develop their skills and expertise in this fun and challenging sport. All Fort Gordon military and civilian dependents are eligible to try out! Tryouts for U13-U19 boys and girls are 11, 12, 14, 16 and 18 June for ages 12 – 19. Age control date is 1 August.

All tryouts are at Patriots Park. Tryouts begin at 6:30 p.m. week-days and at 10 a.m. on Saturdays. Registration starts 30 minutes before tryouts. All competitive players from Fort Gordon and CSRA are welcome. Tryouts are free.

For more information call Phil Sines, 706-825-1027, or Andrew Hammer, 706-399-0480; or visit Patriots' website at www.patriotssoccer.org.

Outdoors getaway

Take the Family on a not so rough camp-out to enjoy simple pleasure and simple fun at Pointes West Army recreation area at Lake Thurmond. Cabins are available for \$75 or campers for \$45.

Call (706) 541-1057 for reservations.

Gordon Lakes Golf courses

Enjoy 27 holes on the highly rated and exquisitely designed Robert Trent Jones, Sr. Gordon Lakes Golf courses. The courses are open daily to the public with easy access during non peak hours 8 a.m to 4:30p.m., and peak hours 6:30a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Call (706) 791-2433 to reserve a tee time or for general information.

Paintball course

The paintball course located behind The Courtyard recreation and dining center has new hours. The course is open 10 a.m. on **Saturdays** and 1 p.m. **Sundays**, each day until dark.

Call (706) 228-5540 for more information.

Bowling

The Gordon Lanes are located on 3rd Avenue in Building 33200 and offer birthday parties, group instruction, leagues and tournaments, and a complete Pro shop.

For more information call (706) 791-3446.

PT road runs

Lane Avenue is closed to all vehicular traffic from 31st Street to 15th Street, Monday - Friday, 5:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m., to allow for unit and individual "on-road" PT runs. The only areas approved for runs from 5:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m., are the 1/3 or 1/4 mile tracks on Barton Field, Chamberlain Avenue, McNair Terrace entrance, and Brems Barracks 1/3 mile track; Barton Field itself, and the Lane Avenue route.

Kids catch nearly 200 pounds of fish

Bonnie Heater

Signal staff

Rain didn't damp the spirits of the more than 250 youngsters who convinced their parents to bring them to the Fort Gordon Kids Fishing Derby on Saturday. The event, which was hosted by the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Fort Gordon Sportsman's Club, was open to the Fort Gordon community and the public for children age 3 to 15 years old. Registration began at 7:30 in the morning at the Claypits Lakes on post and the derby ran from 8 to 11 a.m.

One hundred and eighty-two pounds of fish were weighed in between 11 and 11:30 a.m., according to Fred Perry, the Outdoor Recreation manager at Fort Gordon. Following the weigh in the young fishermen enjoyed hot dogs, potato chips and soft drinks. Soldiers from the 447th Signal Battalion grilled the hot dogs and Soldiers from the 369th Signal Battalion helped with the fish weigh in and registration. Also, assisting with the day's event were 20 volunteers from the Tactical Advantage Sportsman's Complex, located just across from Range 14.

Thirty door prizes, which consisted of rods and reels and tackle boxes, were awarded to the children after lunch. Trophies were awarded to first, second, and third place winners in the 5 years old



Photo by Curtis Bradley

Breana Bradley, age 11, proudly displays the 14 assorted fish weighing in at 30 pounds, 7 ounces that she caught at the Fort Gordon Kid's Fishing Derby held Saturday at the Claypit Lakes on post. The daughter of retired Marine Curtis Bradley and his wife Vickie earned first place in the 9-12 years old category. The avid fisherman won second and third place as a 10-year old.

and under category, the 6 to 8 years old, the 9-12 years old and the 13-15 years old.

In the 5 years old and under category Montana Moore earned the first place trophy with a total weigh

of 18 pounds, 5 ounces. Matthew Mosley took second place with a catch of 10 pounds, 11 ounces and Taylor Covington walked away with the third place trophy after catching a combined weigh of 4 pounds, 11 ounces.

Brandon Unrein earned first place in the 6 to 8 years old category with 4 pounds, 9 ounces; Brandon Brown placed second with 4 pounds, and 1 ounce; and Hannah Wilson won the third place trophy after catching 3 pounds of fish.

Placing first in the 9-12 years old category was Breana Bradley after catching 30 pounds, 7 ounces of assorted fish. Victoria Rook took the second place trophy with 3 pounds, 15 ounces, and Andrew Trakowski placed third with 3 pounds, 9 ounces.

Shaquille Lowery earned first place in the 13-15 years old category with 17 pounds, 1 ounce; Taylor Todd took second place with 8 pounds, 12 ounces; and Sterling Banks placed third with 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

The following sponsors furnished free T-shirts for the children, live bait, the refreshments, and door prizes for the derby: Augusta Coca Cola, AT & T, Herbert Homes, Inc.; Domino's Pizza, Broadway Bait and Tackle, Washington Road Tire and Auto, Sprint, AB Beverage, Ghann's Crickets, Fort Gordon Fish and Wildlife and Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Patricia Radcliffe

Army News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. - The spirit of competition and the desire to represent her country during a major international event has one Fort Monroe spouse hitting the weight racks to further improve her muscle tone and become a major contender in the sport of body-building.

Theresa Hendricks is striving to reach the peak in a sport that is often viewed as a "man thing" - bodybuilding. Although she has scored consistently in the top three slots in amateur competitions throughout the country, she has yet to break through to the pros.

"People have told me, 'You workout harder than any man I know.' Yeah, that's because I have a goal. I work hard, I don't play," Mrs. Hendricks said.

Mrs. Hendricks' goal is to represent the U.S. in the Pro Gran Prix bodybuilding competition held each year in Santa Susanna, Spain. In 2005, she missed the opportunity by one point.

"I wanted to represent our country so bad. One point, just one judge's opinion was all it took," she lamented. "That's harder than losing by four or five points."

Mrs. Hendricks said she receives most of her encouragement from her husband - Sgt. Maj. Rick Hendricks, senior enlisted advisor for the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserves, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. But she also credits her genes for keeping her in the

game. Her father, Michael Cioppa, holds a 7th-degree Tai Kwan Do black belt and is also a bodybuilder.

The 46 year old said she has been competitive as long as she can remember and won sports competitions as early as elementary school.

"I've always been very athletic, all through school. I always won the president's awards and always had the best times in running, long jump, short jump, track and field, sit ups or who could hold themselves up the longest doing chin-ups," she said.

Mrs. Hendricks began lifting weights as a youngster during a time when it wasn't a vogue activity for girls. But, she found she could lift more than many of the boys her age.

"I was lifting weight just for fun when I was 15 and it stuck with me throughout my life. I just came up with the idea one day that I wanted to be a bodybuilder.

Hendricks took 1st place in her first show - the Chattanooga Choo Choo in Tennessee - and 2nd place in a competition about a month later. And then, she gave it up.

"I quit competing because, one day in the gym I looked in the mirror and said, 'I don't like the way I'm looking.' I'm tired and my face looked so stressed. For me to be 18 and have sunken eyes and dark circles around my eyes, that was a no-no for me," she said.

Mrs. Hendricks didn't have a professional coach or proper nutrition and dietary regimens. That frustrated her. But, she continued lifting weights. Through her college days and

even after giving birth to two daughters, the Miami, Fla., native stuck with it.

Not until 2003 did Mrs. Hendricks begin training for competition again. This time, she was going in as a fitness competitor, not a bodybuilder, and with a coach.

She said a fitness competitor has dance moves incorporated with seven mandatory strength holds. Very high-energy routines are performed to music and must impress a panel of judges. Athletes are also gauged on power, flexibility, showmanship, physique - proportion and body tone - as well as how they perform to music.

"Most people don't think training to be a fitness competitor is as hard as being a bodybuilder, but it is twice as hard. Ever do a one-armed push up?

"You have to be in such great cardio shape to go out on stage and perform high-energy, high-speed for two minutes straight. It takes 3 months to prep for a show. It's not just about the body's appearance. The weights help the body look good, but you must have the cardio-vascular (fitness) to perform."

Mrs. Hendricks weight trains five days a week for about two hours and performs cardio six days a week in two 45-minute sessions - first thing in the morning and after weight workouts.

About four months before a show, her coach ramps up her routines and adjusts her diet to ensure her weight and 'cut' will keep her winning.

"I am an eating machine. I eat seven to eight times a day.



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

Theresa Hendricks works out at the Fort Monroe Fitness Center.

It's a very high protein, low-carbohydrate diet. I live on a diet year round. If I ate what I wanted all year round, I would probably gain 50 pounds. As it is, I usually gain about 20 pounds, which is about the norm for most girls.

"Out of seven days a week, six or seven meals a day, I get one free meal where the coach says I can eat anything I want. Usually four months out, the coach starts taking away the free meals.

"I do cheat a little, but not with candy. Sugar makes your

muscles soft," Hendricks said.

She eats mainly fish, turkey, tuna and cottage cheese, or carbohydrates like cream of wheat or a baked potato. She rounds her meals out with fresh fruit like strawberries or grapefruit, and vegetables like spinach or mixed greens. On top of the meals, she drinks about two gallons of water a day.

"Sometimes I wish I never stepped into this arena, because, it's too hard," she said with an exaggerated whine. "It's all about training and eating and cleaning the kitchen."

Tiger Woods to honor servicemembers through golf

Samantha L. Quigley

American Forces Press Service

BETHESDA, Md., May 30, 2007 – Thirty thousand active-duty servicemembers and guests will be able to attend the inaugural AT&T National invitational golf tournament July 3-8, professional golfer Tiger Woods announced here yesterday.

Woods, who's hosting the event at Congressional Country Club here, made the announcement from the storied venue's clubhouse. He said he understands what it means to be part of a military family and that he wants to acknowledge the sacrifices the nation's servicemembers are making.

"I grew up in that household," Woods, whose late father was a Vietnam veteran, said. "I have friends who are in the military as well, so I know the level of commitment that it takes for them and the things that they do."

It's no coincidence that the tournament incorporates the Fourth of July holiday.

"It's our nation's birthday," he added. "I don't think it could be any better than to have it (then) in D.C. and have all the servicemen and women come out and have it on this golf course."

The newest PGA Tour tournament is working with the military's Pentagon-based Morale, Welfare, and



Photo by Samantha Quigley

Golfer Tiger Woods fields questions during a May 29 news conference at Congressional Country Club, in Bethesda, Md.

PGA Tour and the Pentagon that we've been working on," he added. "These details will come out later this week and in the weeks leading up to the tournament."

The tournament, which has a \$6 million purse, will consist of 72 holes of regulation play. Participation is open to 120 players by invitation only. Though many pro golfers set their schedules before the beginning of the year, Jim Furyk, Adam

Recreation office to distribute the tickets, 5,000 for each day of the tournament, Greg McLaughlin, president of the Tiger Woods Foundation, said.

"Our intent is to honor and really thank the people that protect us," he said.

As part of that effort, servicemembers attending the tournament will have their own VIP entrance near the 16th green that will lead to a special seating gallery. Their valid military identification card also will garner them discounts on concessions, McLaughlin said.

"We've got about 10 items in cooperation with the

Scott, Davis Love III and Darren Clarke have joined the field in the quest for the winner's \$1.08 million prize.

While Phil Mickelson and Ernie Els won't hit the Congressional links, Vijay Singh is "up in the air," Woods said.

Woods, who's ranked No. 1 in the world, said he's intending to play, though Mother Nature may have other plans. His wife, Elin, is expecting the couple's first child and could give birth during the tournament.

That fact gave way to a hypothetical question that drew a good laugh from the crowd gathered for the news conference. A reporter asked what Woods would do if he were on the 18th green, holding a one-stroke lead, and got a call saying Elin had just gone into labor.

"Well, I'll have to play real quick, won't I?" Woods said, breaking into a wide smile as the room burst into laughter. "A (birdie) will win, won't it?"

No matter which player claims the tournament title, the real winners will be the children reached through the programs offered by the Tiger Woods Foundation, one of the tournament's beneficiaries. Other D.C.-based charities also will benefit.

Woods and his father, Earl, established the foundation in 1996 with the mission of empowering young people to dream big and set goals to achieve those dreams through community-based programs, according to the foundation's Web site. An estimated 10 million children have benefited to date.

Spectrum



Junior ROTC cadets negotiate the pipe crossing on the obstacle course May 31 at Training Area 6 on post as BNCOC students serve as instructors.

Photos by Bonnie Heater

Camp Semaphore challenges cadets

Bonnie Heater
Signal staff

The Regimental Noncommissioned Officers Academy hosted the 2007 Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge Camp at Fort Gordon May 30 through June 1. The 3-day summer camp known as Camp Semaphore brought out 137 cadets from the age of 14 to 18 years old and 18 Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructors from eight high schools in Richmond and Columbia counties, according to retired Lt. Col. Patrick Rivette, camp commander and an Evans High School JROTC instructor.

Navy JROTC cadets from Glenn Hills High School and Marine JROTC cadets from Butler High School joined Army JROTC members from the Academy of Richmond County High School, Evans High School, Harlem High School, Hephzibah High School, Lakeside High School and Lucy Laney High School during the annual summer camp, according to retired Lt. Col. Boyd Long, camp operations officer and a Hephzibah High School JROTC instructor. Long is also the JROTC liaison officer for all Richmond county schools.

"The intent of the camp is to provide JROTC cadets a challenging, meaningful, and practical learning experience while developing positive leadership, teamwork, citizenship skills, and knowledge while building individual self confidence and discipline through hands on adventure and team building exercises," said retired Maj. Milton Gray, the senior Army JROTC instructor at Harlem High School. "The camp provides the cadets an opportunity to interact with peers from diverse backgrounds in a safe military style environment," added the public affairs and safety officer for Camp Semaphore.

"This is not a recruiting mechanism," explained retired Lt. Col. Thomas Murphy, camp personnel officer and the senior Army JROTC instructor for Lucy Laney High School. "Our mission is to motivate young people to be better citizens," he said.

During the 3-day camp cadets were divided up into companies. Each day the companies would compete in different training events. Cadets rappelled off a 60-foot tower at the Youth Challenge Academy on post after receiving training and a safety briefing. For Cadet Curtis Cato, an eleventh grader at Hephzibah High School, it seemed an easy task. "This makes the fifth time I have rappelled," he said.

The cadets also participated in land navigation training at Training Area 26 and a one rope bridge competition which was held at the RNCOA class field training site, Training Area 14, located near the post veterinarian clinic. After a safety briefing and a demonstration the cadets were divided up into six groups of eight people. They were given time to practice building a rope bridge. This was followed by a timed competition in which each group built a bridge. Members of the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course volunteered to assist with the 3-day JROTC camp. One of the NCOs serving as an instructor expressed his reason for helping the cadets with their summer camp. "NCOs want to train and teach Soldiers," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Crooks, the class leader in BNCOC class 25S-022-07. "We can make a difference. It's all about setting an example and giving them a good image of a Soldier. Many of these cadets will probably go on to join the military after graduating from high school. Camp Semaphore gives them an opportunity to know what it takes to be a good Soldier."

Another training event the BNCOC students assisted the cadets with was the obstacle course. In the course cadets negotiated the tire step, horizontal ladder, pipe crossing, a tunnel, rope climbing, and crawled under a wire obstacle about 1.5 feet high. They also negotiated a vault, crawled under a low rail, jumped over knee-high hurdles, and jumped from one side of a ditch obstacle to the other side while not falling into the ditch.

In the leadership reaction course, which was held at Training Area 6, teams made of 8 to 10 cadets tackled five different challenges. After being briefed on the objective of each obstacle, the team leader, which changed with each challenge, was required to

brief his/her team. They were given 10 minutes to brief and brainstorm how they were going to safely complete the challenge in the allotted 15 minutes. In the first challenge the cadets were informed that there were two boxes containing 7 bricks each and they had to get the boxes and bricks safely across to the other side of the obstacle. A brick could be held by a cadet for only 10 seconds. They had to move through the obstacle via a stone path. They could not slip off the stones nor could they drop the box or the bricks.

During each task in the leadership reaction course the leader could receive a maximum of 40 points during the communication-leader receiving and briefing section.

Trainers graded the leader on if he/she brought the team up to the site for briefing, if team members listened to the leader during the briefing, and if the leader gave clear, complete and concise instruction of the task at hand. The instructors also rated the leader if safety instructions were given prior to completing the task.

The teams could also earn a maximum 30 points per task for leading and team building and an additional 40 points if the task or mission was accomplished in the allotted time of 15 minutes. Points were deducted for safety violations and loss of personnel or equipment during the completion of a task in the leadership reaction course.

At the indoor swimming pool in Building 21608 on Barnes Avenue cadets were completing waterborne survival training. Cadets learned six different methods to turn their Battle Dress Uniform shirts and pants into floatation devices to keep from drowning. Instructing the JROTC cadets during the 3-day camp were volunteer members from BNCOC. The classes providing Soldiers as instructors were 25N-016-07, 25U-014-07, 25 S-022-07, and 25P-024-07.

The 3-day camp concluded June 1 with an award ceremony which was held at RNCOA. Company B was the overall winner of the 3-day competition. Cadets received certificates of completion and a Camp Semaphore medallion before departing.



(Above) A team of five cadets dashes off with determination to complete the timed obstacle course. (Left) At the leadership reaction course cadets had to figure out how to get all of them at the same time on the stump located at team stand station seven while remaining on it for a full 30 seconds. (Right) Graduates of the 2007 Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge camp received a certificate of completion and a medallion during the last call formation and award ceremony on June 1.

